

# **FISCAL NOTE**

## **HB 3233 - SB 3242**

February 11, 2000

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Raises the maximum civil penalty that the Registry of Election Finance may impose for a violation of the Campaign Contribution Limits Act from \$10,000 to \$15,000.

### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

#### **Increase State Revenues - Not Significant**

Assumes an increase in state revenues to the extent penalties are assessed and collected. Such increase is estimated to be not significant.

The Registry of Election Finance has only assessed civil penalties in one case because of a violation of the Campaign Contribution Limits Act since its passage.

Civil penalties are generally not assessed for the acceptance of an excess campaign contribution due to a *safe harbor provision* in current law that provides that an acceptance of an excess contribution is not a violation of the law, if the excess monies are refunded within 60 days of the candidate's receipt of the contribution.

### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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